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# 3/A

215149US-0 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
TORU KURODA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN :  
(BASED ON PCT/JP00/03184)  
FILED: HEREWITH :  
FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF  
CATALYST

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 32, line 24 through page 33, line 6, and replace with the following paragraph.

A reaction was conducted using this catalyst under the same conditions as in Reference Example 5. As a result, the conversion of methacrolein was 81.8%, the selectivity of methacrylic acid was 87.3% and the per-pass yield of methacrylic acid was 71.4%. Thus, the catalyst had performances equal to those of the catalyst of Reference Example 5 produced by an ordinary process.